U.S. Department of Justice



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FBI AGENTS ARREST TWO CITY COUNCILMEN AND TWO LAWYERS IN CONNECTION WITH BRIBERY SCHEME

(SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS) This morning, special agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested without incident two San Antonio City Councilmen and two attorneys in connection with a bribery scheme.

Arrested and charged by a federal grand jury indictment were 38 year-old **ENRIQUE MARTIN**, Councilman from District 4, 50 year-old **JOHN SANDERS**, Councilman from District 2, 51 year-old **JUAN PENA** from the Edinburgh office of the law firm of Heard Linebarger Goggan Blair Pena & Sampson, and 57 year-old **JACK PYTEL**, a sole practitioner in the city of San Antonio.

The indictment alleges that the defendants conspired together in a bribery scheme that centered on the City of San Antonio's private contract to collect unpaid fines and fees. The San Antonio City Council voted to award this contract to the Heard Linebarger firm on April 18, 2002. The indictment alleges that Pena and Pytel paid--and Councilmen Martin and Sanders accepted-cash payments totaling \$12,000 in exchange for their votes in favor of the Heard Linebarger bid. The details of those payments are laid out in the indictment.

All four defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit bribery. Additionally, Pytel and Pena are charged with four counts of bribery; Martin, two counts of bribery; and Sanders, two counts of bribery. Upon conviction, each defendant faces up to five years imprisonment on the conspiracy charge and up to 10 years imprisonment for each bribery charge.

It is important to note that an indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt.

These charges were the result of an investigation by the FBI. And the U.S. Attorney's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Charles Jenkins is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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